

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANAA 00678 100652Z

20

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 NIC-01 DRC-01

SAM-01 /108 W

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R 100430Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3550

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E.O. 11652: N/

TAGS: YE, ELAB

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH NEW YARG LABOR MINISTER

BASINDWAH; REQUEST FOR EARLY VISIT BY REGIONAL LABOR

ATTACHE

FOR REGIONAL LABOR ATTACHE MATTSON

1. AMBASSADOR PAID COURTESY CALL ON MINISTER OF LABOR, SOCIAL AND YOUTH AFFAIRS, MUHAMMAD BASINDWAH, APRIL 7. BASINDWAH WAS A KEY LEADER OF THE NON-COMMUNIST, NATION-ALIST MOVEMENT FOR INDEPENDENCE IN ADEN. NOW A REFUGEE IN NORTH YEMEN, HE CONTINUES TO BE REGARDED AS THE PRIMARY POLITICAL DEPUTY OF FONMIN ABDULLAH AL-ASNAG. BASINDWAH SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND IS A GO-GETTER.

2. BASINDWAH INFORMED AMBASSADOR THAT SOVIET AND COMMUNIST BLOC EMBASSIES WERE ALL OVER HIM WITH OFFERS OF FINANCIAL AND SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE IN BUILDING NEW MINISTRY WHICH FOR FIRST TIME BRINGS LABOR, SOCIAL WELFARE AND YOUTH AFFAIRS UNDER ONE ROOF. MINISTER
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PAGE 02 SANAA 00678 100652Z

SAID CONVINCINGLY HE WAS NOT INTERESTED IN HELP FROM

THIS SIDE, BEING DETERMINED THAT YARG POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES IN THESE FIELDS SHOULD BE PATTERNED ON WESTERN, DEMOCRATIC APPROACHES. HE FELT THAT UNLESS YARG COULD INITIATE USEFUL PROGRAM IN FIELDS WHICH WERE RESPONSIBILITY OF HIS MINISTRY, THESE FIELDS WOULD BE PRE-EMPTED BY CLANDESTINE ACTION PROGRAMS OF COMMUNISTS AND BA'ATHIS IN PURSUANCE OF THEIR OBJECTIVE OF ULTIMATE TAKEOVER IN NORTH YEMEN. EMBASSY APPRECIATES HEAVY DEMANDS ON TIME OF RLA MATTSON BUT FEELS IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR HIM TO REVISIT YEMEN AT AS EARLY A DATE AS HIS SCHEDULE PERMITS NOW THAT YARG HAS FOR THE FIRST TIME AN ARTICULATE, AMBITIOUS AND DEMANDING LABOR MINISTER. BASINDWAH STATED SUCH A VISIT WOULD BE VERY WELCOME.
CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANAA00678
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740082-0063
From: SANAA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740451/aaaabupf.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH NEW YARG LABOR MINISTER BASINDWAH; REQUEST FOR EARLY VISIT BY REGIONAL LABOR
TAGS: ELAB, YE, (BASINDWAH, MUHAMMAD)
To: BEIRUT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005